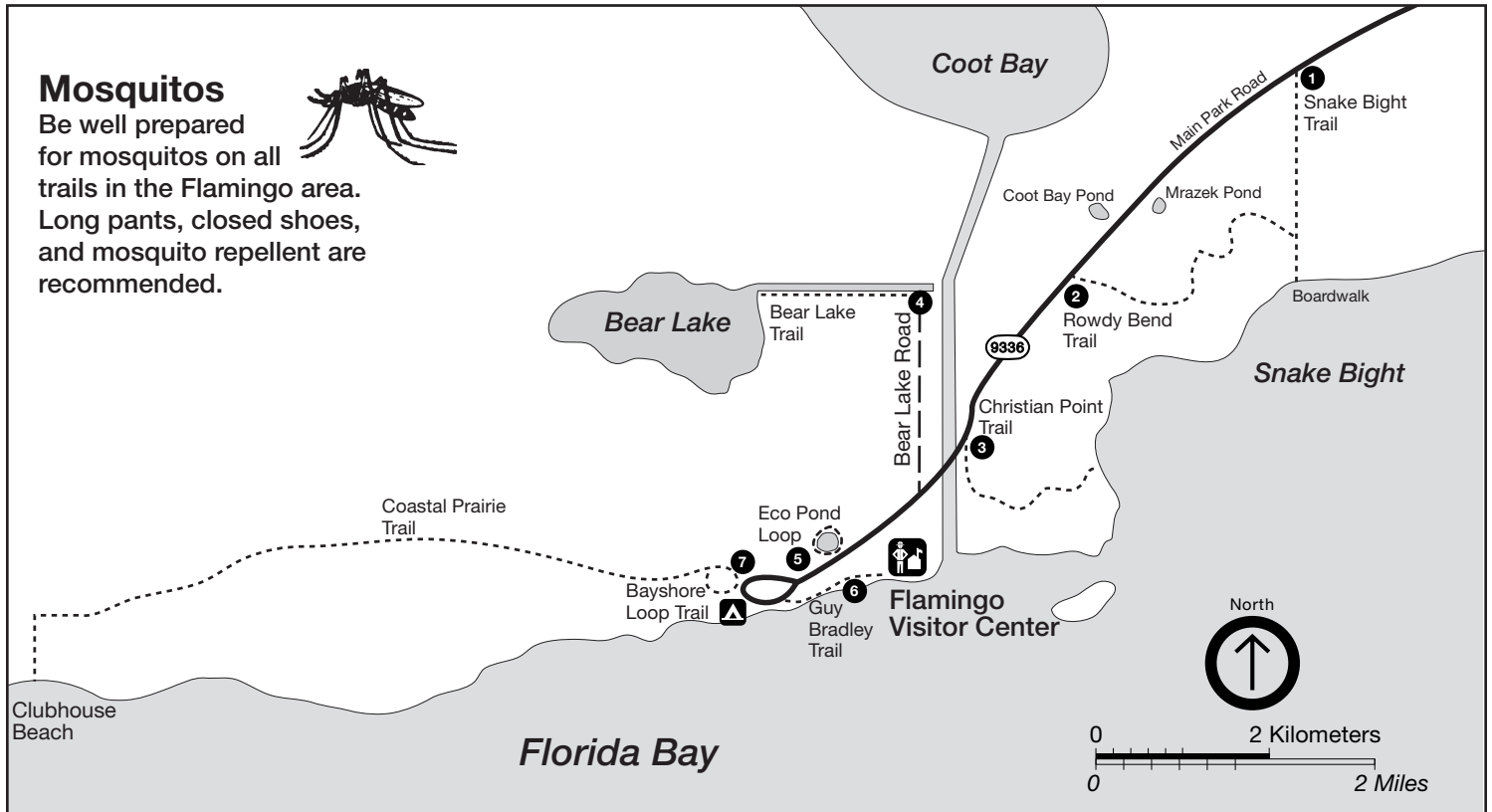


Flamingo Hiking Trails



Trail

- 1 Snake Bight**
1.6 miles one way
- 2 Rowdy Bend**
2.6 miles one way
- 3 Christian Point**
1.8 miles one way
- 4 Bear Lake**
1.6 miles one way
- 5 Eco Pond**
½ mile loop
- 6 Guy Bradley**
1 mile to
campground amphitheater
- 7 Bayshore Loop**
2 mile loop
- 7 Coastal Prairie**
7.5 miles one way

Description

Enter another world as you travel through a tropical hardwood hammock, with dozens of tropical tree species. Good bird watching on boardwalk at end of trail.

Explore an overgrown old road bed through shady buttonwoods and open coastal salt prairie. Trail begins at the Main Park Road and joins with the Snake Bight Trail.

Wander a rustic path beginning in dense buttonwoods full of airplants. End in open coastal prairie along the shores of Snake Bight. Good habitat for raptors.

Journey through a dense hardwood hammock mixed with mangroves. Excellent area for woodland birds. More than 50 different tree types. Trail ends at Bear Lake.

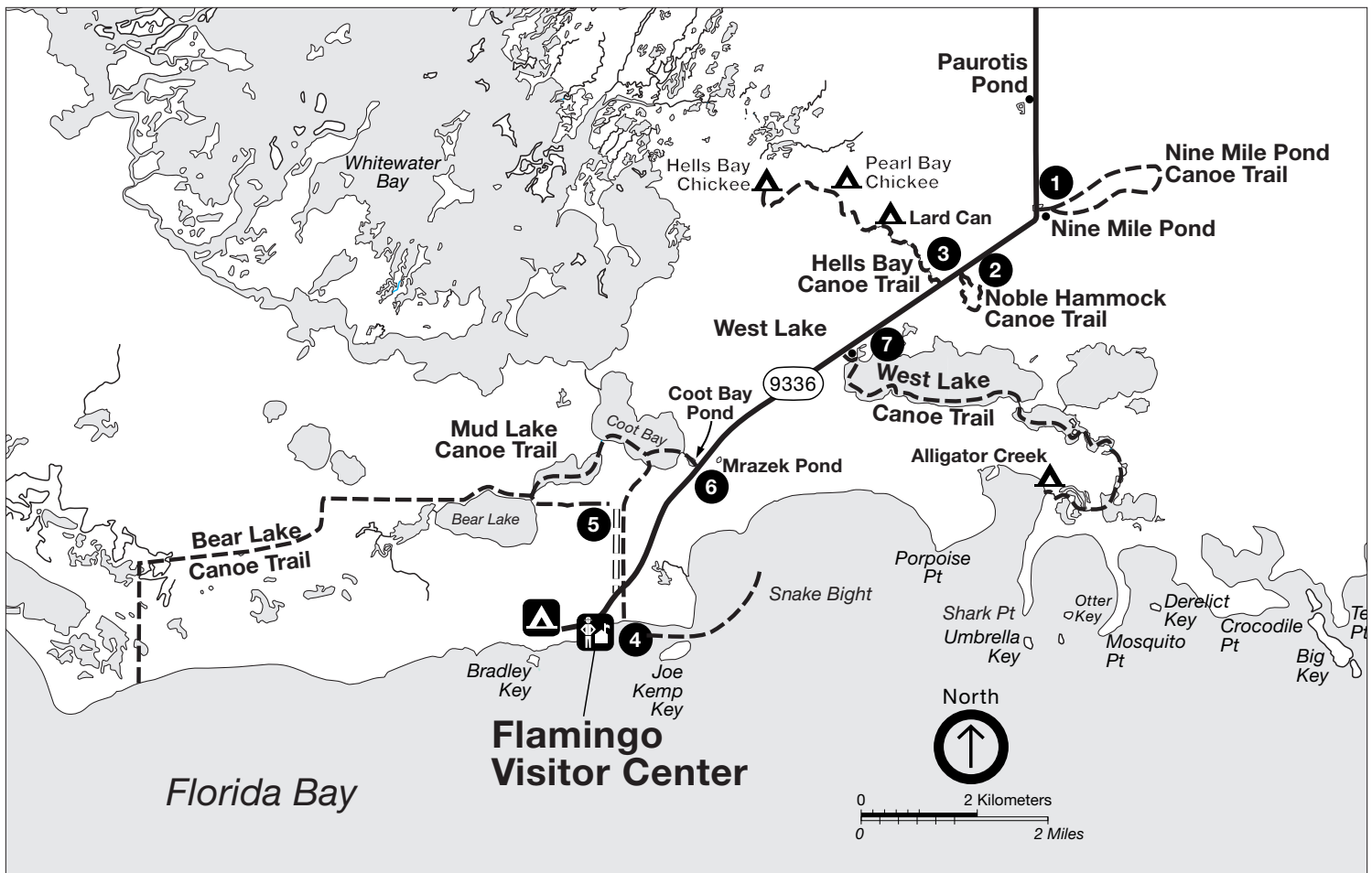
Stroll around this freshwater pond and enjoy a wide variety of wading birds, song birds and other wildlife. Alligators often cruise the pond. Good bird watching from the ramped viewing platform, especially at sunrise and sunset.

Mingle with a variety of birds and butterflies as you amble along the shore of Florida Bay. A scenic shortcut between the campground amphitheater and the visitor center.

Meander along the shore of Florida Bay and watch for remnants of a former outpost fishing village. Begin at the Coastal Prairie Trail head at the back of Loop "C" in the Flamingo Campground. Veer left at the trail junction to the bay.

Step back in time as you walk this old road once used by wild cotton pickers and fisherman. Shady buttonwoods and open expanses of succulent coastal plants await. Begin at rear of Loop "C" in the campground. A backcountry permit is required for camping.

Flamingo Canoe Trails



Trail Descriptions

① Nine Mile Pond

5.2 Mile Loop

Scenic trail through a shallow sawgrass marsh with scattered mangrove islands. Watch for alligators, wading birds, and an occasional eagle. Trail is marked with numbered white poles. Motors prohibited.

② Noble Hammock

2 mile Loop

Trail winds through a maze of shady mangrove-lined creeks and small ponds. Sharp corners and narrow passageways require good maneuvering skills. Enjoy a "crash" course. Check for low water levels during the dry season. A calm trail on a windy day. Motors prohibited.

③ Hell's Bay

3.0 miles to Lard Can

3.5 mile to Pearl Bay Chickee

5.5 miles to Hells Bay Chickee

"Hell to get into and Hell to get out of," so old timers claim. This sheltered route weaves

through mangrove creeks and ponds to a series of small bays beyond Lard Can. Trail is marked with more than 160 numbered poles. Motors prohibited from trailhead to Lard Can. Wilderness permit required for overnight camping.

④ Florida Bay

Distance varies

Opportunities for fun abound! Watch birds (particularly at Snake Bight during medium to high tide), fish or enjoy the scenery of the bay. Visit Bradley Key (during daylight hours only), the only nearby key open to landing.

⑤ Bear Lake Canal

1.6 miles to Bear Lake

11.5 miles one way to Cape Sable

Travel along this historic, tree-covered canal. An abundance of tropical plant and tree species is visible along the trail. Impassable between marker 13-17 during the dry season.

⑥ Mud Lake Loop

6.8 mile loop from Coot Bay Pond

Enjoy a variety of habitats on this loop connecting the Buttonwood Canal, Coot Bay, Mud Lake, and the Bear Lake Canoe Trail. Birding is often good at Mud Lake. Accessible from the Bear Lake Trailhead or Coot Bay Pond. Motors prohibited on Mud lake, Bear Lake, and Bear Lake Canal. **Note:** There is a 200 yard portage where the Bear Lake Canal portion of the trail meets the Buttonwood Canal.

⑦ West Lake

7.7 miles one way to Alligator Creek

Paddle through a series of large open lakes connected by narrow creeks lined with mangroves. Look for alligators and crocodiles. West lake is closed to vessels with motors greater than 6 h.p. Motors prohibited from the east end of West Lake to Garfield Bight. Not recommended on windy days due to exposure, rough waters.

Tides and winds can significantly affect your canoe trip. Do not overestimate your abilities.